THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) The estimated quantity of high grade coking coal in the abandoned mines of Giridih coalfield is 2.33 million tonnes. In the case of Raniganj coalfield estimate with a reasonable level of confidence has not yet been made due to non-availability of data|working plans. *At* present there is no plan to extract these quantities of coal due to high cost of mining and technical difficulties.

Replacement of fire affected components °f second unit of Raichur Thermal Power Station

*105. SHRI M. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka have recently urged the Cen-, tral Government for replacement of! the fire affected components of the second unit of Raichur Thermal Power Station by BHEL; and

(b) if so, what actioa has been taken by the Central Government so far in this regard?

THE[1] MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER, (SHRl ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter was taken up with BHEL who have replaced at site the equipment damaged by fire.

Slow growth ,of Industry in the country

*10t>. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that industrial growth in the country had remained static in the first four months of the Post budget period and that even now the industrial growth i_s not that much as was expected in spite of the fact that various concessions were given to the industrialists in the country; and

(b) if $_s$o, what are the reasons lor the slow growth of industry in the country and for the foreign collaborators not coming up to invest their money in India?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRl NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) and (b) According to the latest available data, the overall rate of industrial growth during April-August 1985 has been 6.3 per cent over the corresponding period last year. Growth, of manufacturing sector at 6.6 per cent ha_s been higher still.

While it is too early to make a full assessment of the impact of the liberalisation .measures initiated by Government to promote industrial growth, various policy intiaves and improvement in the infrastructure envisaged during the Seventh Five-Year Plan period are expected to result in an accelerated rate of industrial growth.

There has been steady improvement in the investment climate in the country this year and the number of foreign collaboration appro issued during April-September, 1985 has been 460 as against 389 during the corresponding period in 1984.

Oil and Gas producing ageneies

* 107. .SHRI C. HARIDAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state;

(a) the names of the ageneies that produce Oil and Gas in the country what their quantity;

(b) the number of weils dug both in on-shore and off-shore areas durihg the last three years and the number of such wells at present producing oil and gas, separately, with the quantity of each produced at present;

(c) the consumption of both oil and gas in various fields in the country; and

(d) whether, in! view of the excess availability of gas, Government propose to switch over to gas run industries and automobiles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINTSTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) ONGC and **OIL** are two agencies engaged in production of oil and gas in the country. The production during 1984-85 w'as as follows:—

	Oil Million Tonnes	Gas Million Cubic Metres
O.N.G.C. . .	26·26	5600
O.I.L. . . .	2·73	1641

(b) 647 wells were drilled on shore and off shore in the last three year?, al together about 2400 weils a[v]e producing oil and gas at present and daily production is about 80 thousand tonnes of oil and about 20 million cubic metres of ga3.

(c) The consumption of natural gas in various sectors in the country during 1584-85 was about 4200 million cubic metres . and that of petroleum products about 39 million toiines,

(d) Subject to the availability, after meeting the requirements of fertilizer plants and petro-chemical plants, gas is proposed to be supplied for power generation and for other industrial use.

Stoppage of instant counter facility in Saving Bank withdrawals in Dehradun Postal Region

*109. DR. SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government had pro vided the instant counter facility in the various Post Offices of the country for Saving Bank withdrawals . up to Rs. 300 or *se* a few years back;

(b) whether it i[s] a fact that the said instant counter facility has been stopped in the Post Offices situated in the Dehradun Postal Region, by the Director of Postal Services, sometimes, from 1983;

(c) if the answers to parts ([a]) and (b) above be in affirmative, whether any Director is empowered to with draw the facility from the public in his region, in spite of the policy deci sion of Government mentioned in part (a) above; and

(d) what disciplinary action Gov ernment propose to take or have al ready taken against the guilty offi cial for causing hardship to the pub lic?

* THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRl RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir. The facility is at presnt provided in all post offices up to the selection grade level for withdrawals up to Rs. 500.

(b) In view of certain frauds occurring in quick succession in some post offices with instant counter facility in Dehradun Postal Region, the Postmaster General, Uttar Pradesh Circle, approved the suspension of the facility in August, 1983.

(c) and (d) The Instant Counter is a facility analogous to the Teller system in the Banks and was intended to provide quicker service at the counters. The suspension of the facility does not affect deposits/withdrawals sought by the depositors which are allowed in the normal course. In the circumstances, the question of any disciplinary action does not arise.

. Frauds in Postal Savings Banks

110, DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a), what is the number of frauds in the Post *Office* Saving Banks unearthed during the last two years;

(b) what is the number of frauds detected in connection with the distribution of money orders and insured letters during the last two years-